

Grant County Office of The Board of County Commissioners

P O Box 37 Ephrata WA 98823 (509) 754-2011

May 31, 2023

To: Grant County Board of County Commissioners

Dear: Fellow BOCC Members

Following our Roundtable last week, it was decided that a formal decision on funding an American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grant to Samaritan Healthcare (Grant County Public Hospital District #1) is needed. A grant such as this would assist in the construction of a new medical center by providing funds to be spent on the facility's heating, ventilation and air conditioning system (HVAC). This is a proper use of ARPA funding as this HVAC system would facilitate the creation of zero pressure rooms in the new facility to help mitigate air contamination which, in turn, prevents the spread of communicable diseases among patients.

I am recommending the Board approve a grant of \$2,000,000 for this purpose. This would assist with the approximately \$9,500,000 total cost of the new facility's HVAC system. I recommend these funds be allocated from the county revenue loss portion for Government Services. As a junior taxing district, this project legitimately falls under the allowable provision of "Government Services" based on the May 31, 2023 recommendation of Curtis Steinhauer, the ARPA advisor of the Washington State Association of Counties.

Sincerely, Danny & Stone		
Danny E. Stone		
District 1 Commissioner		
Rob Jones, Chair	Cindy Carter, Vice Chair	Danny Stone, Member